

Visualization with the Internet for Law Enforcement

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ABSTRACT

The Alliance 2000 for Law Enforcement was established in 1996 by North Alabama police chiefs and county sheriffs, regional and state law enforcement organizations and the University of Alabama in Huntsville to develop and deploy new technologies to assist law enforcement organizations in North Alabama. An assessment of Alliance members identified three needs in priority: 1) officer safety and connectivity to central dispatch and databases, 2) communications between organizations and 3) information access and sharing between organizations.

In 1999 the University of Alabama in Huntsville received a federal grant to address these needs. This paper discusses the uses of visualization with the Internet to assist local law enforcement organizations. Specific topics covered in the paper are:

- Description of the Alliance 2000
- Conceptual framework of deployment system
- Use of law enforcement web site for accessing local, regional and national databases
- Use of email list server for cross jurisdiction communications and sharing of information
- Specific technology deployment applications for North Alabama (actual uses of web site and list server by local police departments)
- Lessons learned and conclusions